REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). (Manual of Patent Examing Procedure (MPEP) ¶ 2143.03).

Applicant's new independent claims include limitations not disclosed or taught by the prior art used by the examiner to reject the previously pending claims (herein after referenced as the "references."). As a result, applicant's new independent claims are patentable over the references.

Furthermore, the remaining new claims, depend from one of the independent claims discussed above and therefore also include the distinguishing claim limitations. As a result, the remaining new claims are also patentable over the references.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call John Ward at (408) 720-8300, x237.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 6/21/04

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